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**United States Patent** [19]**Freeman**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,454,043**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 26, 1995**[54] **DYNAMIC AND STATIC HAND GESTURE  
RECOGNITION THROUGH LOW-LEVEL  
IMAGE ANALYSIS**

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Laboratories, Inc.**, Cambridge, Mass.[21] **Appl. No.:** **99,944**[22] **Filed:** **Jul. 30, 1993**[51] **Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup>** ..... **G06K 9/00; G09G 1/06;  
A06F 15/62**[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **382/168; 382/170; 345/122;  
395/199; 395/155**[58] **Field of Search** ..... 382/18, 1, 16,  
382/51; 358/105, 125, 126; 348/169, 214,  
578, 700; 395/152, 155, 119, 161, 100;  
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Magenes, Giovanni, et al., "Hand Movement Strategies in Telecontrolled Motion Along 2-D Trajectories", IEEE, Mar. 1992, pp. 242-257.

*Primary Examiner*—Leo H. Boudreau*Assistant Examiner*—Matthew C. Bella*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Robert K. Tendler[57] **ABSTRACT**

A low-level model-free dynamic and static hand gesture recognition system utilizes either a 1-D histogram of frequency of occurrence vs. spatial orientation angle for static gestures or a 2-D histogram of frequency of occurrence vs. space-time orientation for dynamic gestures. In each case the histogram constitutes the signature of the gesture which is used for gesture recognition. For moving gesture detection, a 3-D space-time orientation map is merged or converted into the 2-D space-time orientation histogram which graphs frequency of occurrence vs. both orientation and movement. It is against this representation or template that an incoming moving gesture is matched.

**7 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets**